

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on May Show artists.

FULL NAME: *DANNY L. RATCLIFF*

PRESENT POSITION *CEMENT FINISHER*

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: *BORN IN DETROIT, MICH. 8-17-1953*

CATEGORY/PRIMARY MEDIA: *MY PRIMARY MEDIA IS OIL PAINTING*

ART TRAINING (Schools, Scholarships, etc.): *I STUDIED FORMALLY AT COOPER SCHOOL OF ART, KENT STATE, SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE, ALEXANDER SCHOOL OF ART IN SAN DIEGO, AND CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF ART. I ALSO STUDIED PRIVATELY WITH JOHN LOCKHART IN ANN ARBOR MICHIGAN, AND BILL KUFALL IN WEST LAKE, OHIO*

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN (include location and year):

*NORTH BRANCH LIBRARY 1992
AKRON ART MUSEUM 1991
KENT STATE U 1990
CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF ART 1989*

COLLECTIONS THAT NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

TITLE

THE HOUSE OF THE LORD 6'x15' MURAL (THE GARDEN TOMB OF JESUS)

AWARDS: *DREAM SHOW AWARD 1ST PLACE*

ALMOND TEA GALLERY OF JACK RICHARDS 1981

We would appreciate having a statement about your philosophy and work as an artist—either general or something specific about the piece(s) selected for this year's May Show to aid us in the preparation of gallery talks and in the release of publicity materials. For more space, use the back of this sheet.

Generations of love was inspired by my family reunion. The first thing I look for when determining a composition is establishing a strong abstract design.

I spend countless hours developing my paintings. I am a realist, but the power of my work comes from a strong foundation of abstract concepts.

I've spent many years studying realism, but the study of abstract painting opened the floodgates to the reality of really becoming a painter. I approach every painting abstractly, making sure I cover the entire canvas in one session. Then I gradually control my direction by increasing the detail with richer pigment high-key color and controlled texture. I believe the pigment I use is just as much a part of the language of making a painting as the subject matter you choose to convey.